Nancy Bocek, I’m a long time resident of District 4.

I’m representing both myself and Livable U District Coalition to ask for delay on Council Bill 118862 to rezone the University District.

Livable U District’s Position Statement lays out reasonable expectations for the City to meet before upzoning.

First things First. Don’t add massive density before giving us solutions for the problems we already have.

The U District already has been up-zoned to accommodate light rail in the 2005 UCUCA Plan.

Before increasing heights again three and four fold, let’s see if light rail can address existing near intolerable levels of congestion caused by these past zoning changes.

If the upzone really is about affordable housing, first test HALA’s effects on the accessibility of affordable housing under existing zoning before displacing so many in community.

We need solutions first.

- We need Impact fees so growth pays for growth
- We need effective social services to address our ever-growing homeless population.
- We need to prioritize climate change in zoning and the design of buildings – high rises have a high-carbon footprint
- We need a sewer system that doesn’t pollute our waterways
- We need public amenities to be required, not optional tradeoffs with developers
- We need measures to guarantee no net loss of affordable housing.
- We need an effective anti-displacement strategy to preserve our small businesses and affordable homes.
- We need a comprehensive traffic and parking mitigation plan to take into account the anticipated growth on the University of Washington campus.
- We need developers to replace 1 for 1 low cost housing within the U District
- We need a right of first notice law for low income apartments so nonprofits can preserve them
- We need to increase, improve and maintain parks and open space
- We need a comprehensive historic preservation plan
- We need strong regulations protecting our declining older growth tree canopy.

Why so high? Why so wide? Why so dense? The facts don’t add up.

Keep existing zoning, otherwise known as the “no action alternative”, which is more than enough to meet growth goals.